THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE GODA RAGHURAM

WRIT PETITION NO. 2863 OF 2007

Between :

Peddi Ratnaiah, Wargal village,
Medak District and others

… Petitioners

And :

The Revenue Divisional Officer, Siddipet
and Another

… Respondents

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WRIT PETITION NO. 2863 OF 2007

ORAL ORDER :

The petitioners are existing Fair Price Shop Dealers of several villages in Medak District. The first respondent issued a public notification dated 31.01.2007 calling for applications for grant of authorization as FP Shop dealers in respect of notified vacancies both under several specified reserved categories as well as OC, in areas where the petitioners have subsisting authorizations to run FP Shops. In the writ petition the petitioners asserted that despite their existing authorization and without an order of bifurcation of the F.P. shops, the respondents have issued the impugned notification.

The learned Government Pleader for Civil Supplies has

placed before this court an order of the District Collector, Medak, dated 23.10.2006 sanctioning approval for opening of 32 new FP Shops, by bifurcating the existing FP Shops in Gajwel Assembly Constituency. A copy of this order has also been communicated to the petitioners.

The petitioners being mere authorisees of FP Shops, have no right to a particular number of cards for supplying essential commodities nor have an entrenched right to a particular territory within which they may function as FP Shop dealers. In the complexity of evolving administrative needs, the District Collector has the authority and jurisdiction to bifurcate even existing FP Shops so as to create a greater and more efficient public distribution system. No right inheres the petitioners to interdict such administrative decision. As the petitioners have also been communicated the order of bifurcation, they cannot complain that the impugned notification inviting applications is a process that impacts them without knowledge to them of the reasons why such impact is brought about.

For all the aforesaid reasons there are no merits in the writ petition. The writ petition is accordingly dismissed. No order as to costs.

Dated: 29.03.2007 ----------
Pvsn/Tsnr Justice G.Raghuram